



# Mayor's Message

## TODAY'S TOPICS:

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23 DECEMBER 2016

Dear Neighbors,  
At the Village Board meeting earlier this week, Public Works Director Brad Fink provided an update on the status of the Lake Michigan Water project for the Board and residents. A link to his slide presentation is available on the Village website:

<http://wauconda-il.gov/DocumentCenter/View/654>.



In summary, Wauconda voters authorized an increase in property taxes in 2012 to fund the construction of water system infrastructure to bring Lake Michigan Water to Wauconda as well as improvements to the internal water delivery system with the Village. In 2013, \$9.5 million in General Obligation bonds were issued to fund a portion of the engineering and construction costs for the project.

With regard to the internal system improvements, Phase 1 of the internal system improvements was authorized by the



Village Board and construction on the \$4.7 million phase began in 2014 and was completed in 2015. Phase 2 of the internal system improvements was bid in late 2015 and the \$4.2

million construction project is approximately 70% complete with completion expected in spring 2017. Design engineering for Phase 3, the last of the three internal phases of the project, has been authorized by the Village Board and a portion of the project has been bid. Low

interest loans issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) are planned to fund Phase 2 and 3 with interest on the borrowed funds accumulating at a rate of 1.86%.

For the external project, the Village spent 2014 identifying, evaluating and negotiating with a provider of Lake Michigan Water. After extensive negotiations, an Admissions Agreement was approved between Wauconda and the



**Central Lake County  
Joint Action Water Agency**

Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency (CLCJAWA) in December of 2014 to grant Wauconda membership in the water

agency. Preliminary engineering is complete and a route has been identified on which to construct the transmission main. Right-of-way acquisition is underway and design engineering has been authorized. Once design engineering is complete for the transmission main, the project is planned to be bid in four phases starting in March of 2017 and the project is expected to be complete in late 2018.

Once the detailed engineering is complete, construction costs will be estimated and staff will be able to provide an updated estimate of what the project will cost the Village and residents. These estimates will be shared with the public at a presentation to the Village Board in late spring.

**End of Year Review.** At the last Village Board meeting of the year, it has become a tradition for Trustee Barbini to provide a year-end summary of activities and accomplishments in furtherance of the strategic goals of the Village. This past Tuesday's board meeting was no exception. You can view the Board Meeting in its entirety at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJT9Qul8Ool&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJT9Qul8Ool&feature=youtu.be). Trustee Barbini's comments start at the 1:18:45 mark.

I would like to reiterate a couple of our accomplishments from the past year for you here. As a refresher, the three strategic goals for the Village are 1) Obtaining Lake Michigan Water for the Village, 2) Economic Development, and 3) Excellence in Governance with a Focus on Core Village Services in an effective and efficient manner. Our first goal, Lake Michigan Water, is on pace for a 2018 delivery and under budget.

In the area of economic development, we welcomed several new businesses in 2016 most notably Patten Cat and Extra Space Storage. The redevelopment of the long vacant Dominick's building to house Extra Space Storage was especially



rewarding in removing the highly visible "white elephant" in the Village. Our community events continue to draw new people to our community allowing us to show off what makes our community great. Our efforts will continue to focus on attracting and retaining businesses and helping existing business grow and thrive in Wauconda.

With regard to excellence in governance, we continue to use long range planning to manage our streets and sanitary sewer systems to plan for systematic replacements and repairs rather than waiting for system failure. Long range budget

forecasts allowed us to recognize the difficulties that lie ahead and proceed with the consolidation



of emergency dispatch services with Lake Zurich saving Wauconda over \$400,000 annually with no reduction in service to the residents. We implemented a pay-as-you go capital equipment replacement plan eliminating borrowing for vehicles and equipment. Consequently, debt for capital equipment has been reduced from \$1.5 million in 2013 to approximately \$58,000 in 2017 and is scheduled to be completely eliminated in February of 2019. Our budget performance continues to highlight our focus on cautious spending with a General Fund budget surplus of \$815,000 in FY 2015 and \$385,000 in FY 2016.



In short, it's been a busy year. Difficult decisions were made and the Village is in position to better meet the challenges ahead. On behalf of the Village Board and staff of the Village, it is our honor to serve you and we look forward to a productive 2017.

### **New Wauconda Police Officer**

Congratulations Rolando Ruiz! Rolando started his career with the Wauconda Police Department as a Dispatcher in December 2014. He was then hired as a Community Service Officer in May 2016. On December 20, 2016, he was sworn in as



Wauconda's next Police Officer. Rolando attends the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy (SLEA) on January 9, 2017, and will graduate on March 31, 2017. After his graduation, he will spend three months in the Field



Training Officers program.

Rolando graduated from Western Illinois University with a Bachelor's Degree in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration. We are excited to have him as part of our team.

### **TCYFL Big 10 Middleweight 5A Champions**





On Tuesday, December 20th at the Village Board meeting, I had the pleasure of honoring Wauconda's very own TCYFL Big 10 Middleweight 5A Super Bowl Champion Bulldogs. Coached by Mike Husko, Tyler Husko, George Baglione, Dan Bennett, Bill Rathgeber, Cory Kazimour, Dave Groelle, Evan Husko, and Aidan Stephan, the Bulldogs completed another undefeated season while running their winning streak to 22 games. Most impressive was that the team didn't trail at any point in any game this season culminating in another championship.

Players on the team include Gavin Eiswerth, Kody Doschadis, Collin Cheshier, Colin Husko, Vince Bennett, Hunter Rathgeber, Joshua Weinert, Anthony Rios, Dennis Kloss, Jack Vanselow, Brett Kazimour, Kyle Piehl, Chase Groelle, Ryan Stephan, Nick Bennett, and Kamrin Martin. My congratulations to the coaches and players on their success and representing Wauconda in fine fashion!




## Christmas Tree Disposal



**Ask The Mayor...** We get multiple questions each year on the following:

**Question:**

Will the Village be picking up Christmas trees at the curb again this year? What other options are there for the disposal of Christmas Trees?



I wonder...  
Why is it...  
How do ...

**Answer:**

Waste Management will be collecting Christmas Trees placed at the curb according to the following schedule:

- Resident's with Tuesday refuse collection will have trees picked up on Wednesday, January 4th (a day later than normal due to holiday schedule) and January 10th.
- Residents with regularly scheduled Thursday refuse collection will have trees picked up on Friday, January 6th (one day later than normal due to holiday collection schedule) and January 12th.

Trees placed at the curb for recycling should be free from all tinsel, lights, and decorations (also please remove the stand). Do not place trees in front of your trash or recycling bins. A tree collection truck, different from the regular

garbage or recycling truck, will pick-up the tree for recycling.

Resident's also have the option of disposing of undecorated, natural Christmas trees at the Lakewood Forest Preserve between December 26th and February 1st. The trees are chipped and used for trails and landscaping at the forest preserve. For more details check the Forest Preserve District's website at [www.lcfpd.org/holiday-tree-recycling](http://www.lcfpd.org/holiday-tree-recycling).

**Christmas  
Tree  
Recycling**



**Winter Wonderland Fun at Messiah Lutheran  
Preschool**



## "Not Just for Mommy" and Me classes!

*(Classes are not just for Mommy's; dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nannies, caregivers all welcome!)*

Please join us for our free special "mommy" and me classes and have a wonderful time bonding with your child while getting a little taste of what MLPK has to offer your family!

**Registration is now open for the 2016/2017 season!**

### Winter Wonderland Fun!

Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> 9:30-10:30am



### Bouncing Baby Bunnies!

Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30-10:30pm



Visit our website [MLPK.org](http://MLPK.org) or call us to register, 847-526-7479

Seasonal centers! Hands on fun! Music and movement! Fun Learning Environment!

\*Ages walking - 4 years old

\*Limit of 15 children per class

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

We've been fortunate to accomplish a great deal in the Village these past three years and we count our every blessing. Your support has made all the difference and my family and I thank you. We wish you and your family every blessing and success in the New Year!

The next meeting is Tuesday,  
January 3rd, 2017 at 7:00 PM at  
Village Hall, 101N. Main Street.



Take care and God Bless,

Frank

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Any opinions contained herein, express or implied, are  
those of the Mayor and are not necessarily the opinions of  
the other elected officials of the Village of Wauconda.

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